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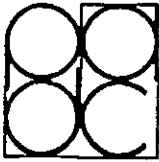
626 D Street, NW  
(Leonard's Lunch)  
Washington  
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-595

PHOTOGRAPH

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127



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AVENUE  
DEVELOPMENT  
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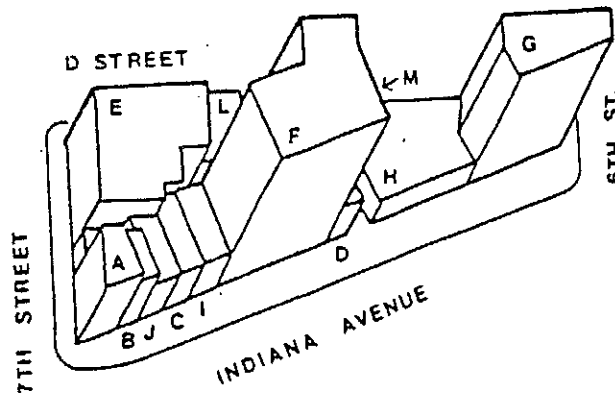
HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

BUILDING DOCUMENTATION

HABS No. DC-595

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DC,  
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626 D Street, NW (Leonard's Lunch)  
HABS No. DC-595  
Lot 19



This documentation was produced for mitigation purposes by the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation. Additional documentation exists for Square 458, within which this structure stands. For photographs, historical, and descriptive data on Square 458, see HABS No. DC-618.

#### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Leonard's Lunch Building is located at 626 D Street, NW on Lot 19, a small rectangular mid-block lot. The lot is approximately twenty feet wide by thirty-five deep. This two-story, three-bay commercial structure shares a party wall with a one-story parking lot to the east and a modern, thirteen-story high-rise building to the west. The flat roof slopes north-south. Brick bearing walls support wood floor and ceiling joists which span the full width of the building.

The brick facade is simply expressed. The ground floor facade - faced with corrugated aluminum sheathing - has two large plate glass windows flanking the central entrance. The upper level displays three equally spaced and sized rectangular window openings with steel angle lintels, and two-over-two double-hung sash. Above each are small attic vents. The elevation terminates with a narrow strip of metal coping.

The basement, used for storage, is accessible through a staircase at the south, (rear). The ground level restaurant utilizes a large open space towards the street entrance and smaller service areas in the rear. The second floor contains partitioned storage and restroom spaces that are reached via a stair on the south side of the building. Finishes throughout are contemporary.

#### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Although a construction date between the 1870s and 1890s may be inferred through plat map information (Bastert, 1872 and Hopkins, 1887), the existing building reveals early Twentieth Century construction techniques. This small, modest structure typifies the more undistinguished small-scale development which occurs sporadically in downtown Washington. The building is an anonymous component of the streetscape and is architecturally undistinguished.



D Street Facade

Lot 3 (Sublot 19)  
620 D Street

1855.....C.S. Wallach, a lawyer, along with James W. McCulloch, were listed as tenants for this year.

1863  
to

1869.....Edward Carrington, a lawyer, was listed among the tenants of 620 D Street.

1872/73...Lot 19 was assessed to Mary B. Hill for \$2,616.00.

1878/79...John M. McCalla and Helen H. McCalla, the trustees, are assessed \$1,431.00 for Lot 19.

1880  
to

1890.....From 1880 to 1890 a variety of tenants occupied the lot. Included were Burgee and Son, locksmiths; John Chapman, bricklayer; Edward O'Brien, locksmith and bellhanger; and Sam Lung who operated a laundry.

1895  
to

1902.....John L. Wilson, a tin and sheetmetal worker, was listed as the tenant of 620 D Street.

1903  
to

1919.....The Baist Plat Map for these years reflected a slight variation in the numbering system. Lot 19, previously designated by 620 O Street, became 624 D Street in 1903 and 626 D Street sometime between 1903 and 1919.

1905.....An August 4th building permit granted Helen H. McCalla permission to cut one opening on each floor through the party wall connecting 626 and 628 D Street. The permit described the building as a two story store (Permit #338, cost: \$50.00).

1906  
to

1910.....The City Directories list the R.P. Andrews Paper Company, Inc. as the tenant of 626 D Street.

1910.....A building permit dated October 10th was granted to the R.P. Andrews Company, Inc. to change a window and to put a door in place of the window and to cut a door between 624 and 626 D Street. The alterations were to be executed by the contractor C.A. Campbell (Permit #1698, cost: \$100.00).

1981.....The building as seen today is occupied by the Leonard Lunch Restaurant.

## SOURCES

Baist Real Estate Atlas

Bastert and Enthoffer Plat Maps

Boyd's City Directories

District of Columbia Building Permits

District of Columbia General Assessment Records

District of Columbia Recorder of Deeds

District of Columbia Surveyor's Office Records

District of Columbia Tax Records

Hopkins Real Estate Atlas

Polk's City Directories

Property Map for Downtown Urban Renewal Area for District of Columbia Redevelopment  
Land Agency

Sanborn Insurance Map

STATE District of Columbia	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY Washington
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)		HABS NO. DC-595
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE "Leonard's Lunch"		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 626 D Street, N.W., Square 458, Lot 19		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown. Appears to be early 20th Century (construction methods).		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) This simple late 19th Century commercial building is architecturally undistinguished. The building was harmonious with the once low scale of the city. With the loss of the original context, the building is now dwarfed by the twelve story office building to the west, and a modern parking garage to the east.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) N/A		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick bearing walls support wood floor and roof joists.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Rectangular, approximately 20' x 30'. Basement plus two stories.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE First floor - faced with corrugated aluminum, central entrance large plate glass windows. Second floor - three rectangular windows, steel lintels, attic vents, cornice defined by metal coping.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Basically open in plan with partitions in rear. First floor - front: restaurant seating, rear: service area, two stairs at southern end leading to basement and second floor Second floor - storage and restroom facilities.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Cut one opening per floor to connect 626 and 628 D Street (Permit #338 8/4/1905). Erect roof (Permit #1822 1/11/1906).		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE First floor - restaurant. Basement and second floor - storage; condition: good.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE This building lies within the boundaries of the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site. It is scheduled for redevelopment as a part of the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation's Historic Preservation Plan, 1977.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Records, National Archives - building permit information, Washingtoniana Collection, Martin Luther King Library - plat maps information.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Christina A. Allen, Anderson Notter/Mariani for the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation.		DATE 9/28/81